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SPECIAL CABLES.

FROM THE "HERALD'S" LONDON CORRESPONDENTS.

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY.

TROOPING THE COLOURS.

LONDON, June 26. At the trooping of the colours and parade at the Horse Guards to-day, it being the official celebration of the King's Birthday, the King and Queen Alexandra and other members of the Royal Family were present. The Khedive of Egypt, who is on a visit to England, also attended. Today was observed as a holiday in all military and naval centres.

GERMANY.

THE NEW REICHSZAG.
STRENGTH OF PARTIES.

LONDON, June 26. An analysis of the latest returns relating to the general election in Germany has been prepared, and shows that the position of parties in the new Reichstag will be as follows:—
Centre (Catholic) Party .. 90
Social Democrats .. 80
Conservatives .. 60
National Liberals .. 45
The majority of members are favourable to the conclusion of commercial treaties.

CHINA.

GREAT CONCESSIONS TO RUSSIA.

LONDON, June 27. With the approval of Chang-chih-tung and Yuan-shih-ai, the Viceroy of the provinces concerned, Russia, through an agent named Pollak, has obtained a concession for railways from Han-tan to Cheng-tu, and from Han-tan to Tientsin.

An Imperial Edict is awaited confirming the granting of the concessions.
A railway from Han-tan to Cheng-tu would be the shortest route to the south, and it is at present under construction. It is a railway of great importance, as it would connect the Yangtze and the Min. A railway from Han-tan to Tientsin would be of great importance, as it would connect the Yangtze and the Min.

HUNGARY.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

LONDON, June 26. The new Hungarian Premier, Count Hildesheim, is including in his Ministry most of the members of the late Szell Administration, except the Minister for Internal Affairs, General Baron Giza Ferenczy, and the Minister to the Court at Vienna, Count Julius Szechenyi.

SOMALILAND.

ITALY AND BRITAIN.

LONDON, June 26. British bluejackets are co-operating with the authorities in the Italian port of Somaliland in searching the coast for contraband of war in the shape of arms and ammunition which may be intended for the Mullah in his war against Great Britain.

THIBET.

ESTIMATE OF POPULATION.

LONDON, June 26. The Russian traveller Zubkoff estimates the population of Lhasa, the capital of Thibet, at 100,000 and the Thibetan army at 40,000, and describes the army as consisting of poorly drilled troops armed with bows and arrows and other obsolete weapons. The population of Thibet is said by Zubkoff to be steadily decreasing.

NORTH-WEST AFRICA.

ACTIVITY OF THE FRENCH.

LONDON, June 26. France has organised the defence of the left bank of the river Senegal, the boundary of Senegambia, against Moorish raiders from the north. Several military posts have been established at Mauritania camel corps in Senegal.

EXPLOSIVES IN THE TRANSVAAL.

RESTRICTIONS REMOVED.

LONDON, June 27. An Ordinance published at Pretoria has removed the restrictions upon the importation of explosives into the Transvaal. The Ordinance has also annulled the contracts of the late Government with the explosives contractors.

EARTHQUAKE IN HUNGARY.

HOUSES COLLAPSE.

LONDON, June 26. Four distinct shocks of earthquake are reported to have been experienced in Eger, a city of Hungary, on the Eger, 80 miles north-east of the capital, Pesth.
Several houses collapsed, and most of the buildings in the town were damaged.

A STEERABLE BALLOON.

LONDON, June 26. The Santos Dumont steerable omnibus balloon, it is announced, will be ready in a few days for shipment to the International Exhibition to be held at St. Louis, U.S.A.
The directors of the St. Louis Exhibition expect to receive the balloon as a valuable acquisition.

SHIP DURHAM ON FIRE.

CARGO DAMAGED.

LONDON, June 27. The ship Durham, from Melbourne, has been badly damaged by fire at Buenos Ayres. The ship is loading in fire at Buenos Ayres. The ship is loading in fire at Buenos Ayres. The ship is loading in fire at Buenos Ayres.

KILLED BY AN AVALANCHE.

LONDON, June 27. Sixteen pupils and two masters at Arrol, Switzer, were surprised by an avalanche, seven of the party are missing.

PREFERENTIAL TRADE.

MINISTERIAL SPEECHES.

MR. BALFOUR AND MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

WHAT IS WANTED.

INCREASED FREEDOM OF TRADE.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S VIEWS.

DECREASE IN CERTAIN EXPORTS.

VALUE OF THE COLONIES' TRADE.

MANUFACTURING FOR THE HOME MARKET.

LONDON, June 26.

This afternoon Mr. Arthur Balfour, the Prime Minister, on behalf of the Constitutional Club, presented Mr. Chamberlain, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with a significant silver casket, which was accompanied by an address congratulating his administration on the occasion of his birthday.

Important economic speeches were delivered.

The address in the casket presented to Mr. Chamberlain yesterday by the Constitutional Club was written by a group of writers.

MR. BALFOUR'S SPEECH.

Mr. A. J. Balfour, the Prime Minister, in making the presentation, outlined the attitude of the Government towards Mr. Chamberlain's proposals for preferential trade.

Mr. Balfour said it would be folly to make differences of opinion on fiscal questions the test of party loyalty. Under present conditions negotiation in the true sense of the word is impossible.

Our balloon had been kept up by throwing out the sand bags used for ballast, and when the sand was exhausted we must reconsider our position.

The issues raised, Mr. Balfour continued, were in nowise new. The existing evils and their dangers had been emphasised for years past by the Government's members.

FREEDOM OF NEGOTIATION.

The public would make a mistake by concentrating their gaze on particular methods of meeting evils. It was not in controversy whether food should be taxed, but whether the evils which existed demanded a remedy.

There was no real or substantial reason why the policy proposed by Mr. Chamberlain, which was practically a policy of free trade, should be carried out without increasing the cost of living.

What was wanted was freedom of negotiation with other countries, for the purpose of increasing freedom of trade untrammelled by prohibitive tariffs.

Mr. Balfour said he would say nothing about the further object of strengthening Imperial unity. He would leave that to Mr. Chamberlain, the one man, dead or alive, who had given life and expression to the idea of Imperial unity. (Cheers.)

MR. CHAMBERLAIN SPEAKS.

Mr. Chamberlain (the Secretary of State for the Colonies), in the course of his reply to Mr. Balfour, said he was glad to hear that the Constitutional Club for its handsome gift, re-presented the compliment paid him by Mr. Balfour, and added to it a generous protestation of loyalty and fidelity to the Prime Minister as his chief.

He said he was in glowing language paying a tribute to the colonies in relating to the ideal of the common obligation of empire, despite indifference, slight, and sneers. There had been opposition in the past to many schemes of promoting the closer unity of the motherland and the colonies, nevertheless they must consult and follow the wishes and interests of the colonies, remembering that the success of any Imperial union depended upon the cordial support tendered to that union from all parts of the Empire.

THE INQUIRY.

Mr. Chamberlain continued that he was, in a certain sense, the representative of the colonies was bound to ask for an inquiry into the economic and fiscal relations of the Empire and of foreign countries, in pursuance of the colonies' suggestion that closer union could be most profitably reached by commercial union.

This, he said, was no party question. A system of preferential tariffs was the only system capable of keeping the Empire together.

PROFITABLE BRITISH EXPORTS.

He suggested whether the exports of British manufactures to the colonies did not exceed the exports to all the protected States of Europe and America.

That group of exporters, he said, to the protection of which the colonies were bound, Mr. Chamberlain affirmed, was continually and rapidly decreasing in quantity and profitable character. He would ask them whether it would not be wiser to cultivate the trade of ten million of our kinsmen, taking from us as much as the value of £10 a head, than to lose the opportunity for our sale of attempting to conciliate three hundred million of our enemies, taking from us a few shillings of exports per head.

PROGRESS OF PROTECTED COUNTRIES.

Proceeding to refer again to the inquiry, Mr. Chamberlain added that that inquiry would also comprise the subject of the condition and the relative progress of protected countries.

Regarding a policy of retaliation, or, as Mr. Balfour had better described it, the policy of negotiation, the Colonial Secretary said: "If having something to bargain with we fail in negotiation, we reserve to Great Britain a vast production, instead of tolerating the ruin of our iron and textile industries by the importation of goods manufactured in protected States and sold below cost price."

THE "DEAR LOAF" CRY.

Mr. Chamberlain declared as monstrous the accusation that the Unionist party intended to lay greater burdens upon the poor. The cry of the "dear loaf" was an impudently.

Even if the price of any particular article was raised there would be compensations in other directions, and the cost of living would not be increased in the slightest degree.

Mr. Chamberlain concluded by urging an impartial inquiry on the lines he had indicated in relation to the interests of the majority of the population.

The speeches of Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain were cheered throughout their delivery.

ATTITUDE OF THE COLONIES.

THEIR CONVERSION DOUBTED.

LONDON, June 27. The "Standard," in commenting upon the speeches of Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain

AT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CLUB.

asked the colonies so far waive their policy of protecting local industries as to open a remunerative market for British goods. "Probably it will be harder," the "Standard" says, "to convert some of the colonies, than to obtain the assent of the home constituencies to Mr. Chamberlain's scheme."

WATER Famine AT BROKEN HILL.

MINES STILL CLOSED DOWN.

A GLOOMY OUTLOOK.

NO SIGNS OF RAIN.

THE UMBRELLA WERE.

The salvation of Broken Hill depends upon a heavy rainfall of sufficient duration to replenish the water supply. The Government has been unable to supply water from South Australia for mining operations. The cost would be too great, whilst the stock, both of the South Australian Government and the Broken Hill Company, is unable to carry the enormous quantity of water which the mine consumes daily.

The outlook is exceedingly gloomy. Relief will only come with a heavy rainfall. The Government has been unable to supply water from South Australia for mining operations. The cost would be too great, whilst the stock, both of the South Australian Government and the Broken Hill Company, is unable to carry the enormous quantity of water which the mine consumes daily.

MELBOURNE ASSETS COMPANIES.

LONDON, June 26. The shareholders of the Melbourne Assets Company, of the English and Australian Assets Company, and the Melbourne Trust Assets Company, have agreed to a scheme of amalgamation. The new company is to be called the Melbourne Assets Company, and has power to absorb the Mercantile Bank Assets Company when its debentures are finally extinguished.

GENERAL CABLE NEWS.

LONDON, June 26. The New Zealand land which is on a visit to England has played a part in the Albert Hall in aid of the funds of the Union Jack Club. The King and Queen Alexandra were present, also the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Princess of Wales and many generals have visited the studio of Mr. Adrian Jones to inspect the equestrian statue which he has been commissioned to execute for Adelaide in memory of victims of the South African campaign.

A committee entrusted with the task of selection has purchased for the Adelaide National Art Gallery out of the gift provided by Mr. Fisher for the purpose of a souvenier by Joseph Parquharson, which was exhibited at the Academy in 1899.

The report of the National Bank of New Zealand shows a profit of £262,704. A dividend of 10 per cent. is declared, a sum of £300,000 is added to the reserve fund, and £7700 is carried forward.

THE WEATHER.

SCATTERED RAIN.

HEAVY SHOWERS ON THE COAST.

FINE WEATHER INLAND.

On Saturday the long spell of fine weather was given place to unsettled conditions. From a lowering sky fell a moderate shower of rain, followed by a heavy shower, which did much to help people over a difficult season in the water. The shower was followed by a heavy shower, which did much to help people over a difficult season in the water.

As Broken Hill is not connected with the railway system of the State, the water supply is a problem. It is considered by many that there is a real chance of the water supply being cut off. The water supply is a problem. It is considered by many that there is a real chance of the water supply being cut off.

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The following reports were received at noon on Saturday:—
Broken Hill, 10 p.m.; Melbourne, 10 p.m.; Adelaide, 10 p.m.; Sydney, 10 p.m.; Perth, 10 p.m.; Melbourne, 10 p.m.; Adelaide, 10 p.m.; Sydney, 10 p.m.; Perth, 10 p.m.

POSITION AT THE MINES.

NUMBERS OF MEN RETAINED.

TRADEPEOPLE STOPPING CREDIT.

ORGANISING RELIEF.

RAIN-MAKING EXPERIMENTS.

The conditions seem favorable for a change, there being a prospect of rain on Monday.

Affairs on the mine remain quiet. Work has been resumed, and a number of men are still kept employed in many instances is only a temporary measure. The Government has been unable to supply water from South Australia for mining operations. The cost would be too great, whilst the stock, both of the South Australian Government and the Broken Hill Company, is unable to carry the enormous quantity of water which the mine consumes daily.

QUEENSLAND RAINFALLS.

During the past couple of days showers have been experienced in Queensland. The following are the principal rainfalls recorded for the 24 hours ending on Saturday:—
Brisbane, 1.2; Ipswich, 0.8; Rockhampton, 0.5; Bundaberg, 0.3; Gladstone, 0.2; Melbourne, 0.1; Adelaide, 0.1; Sydney, 0.1; Perth, 0.1.

OFFICIAL PRECEDENCE.

CABINET MINISTERS AND THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

PROTEST IN NEW ZEALAND.

RESIGNATION OF MR. ROBERT STOUT.

It is stated that a despatch has been received from the Colonial Secretary giving the new order of precedence. The main change is that all Ministers of the Crown precede the Chief Justice in the north.

In a memorandum to the Governor protesting against the new order of precedence, the Chief Justice, Mr. Robert Stout, states that it is a blotting the highest judicial authority of the colony, and he asks to be relieved of his office as soon as adequate provision is made for compensation.

It is understood that the new precedence applies also to Australia.

LORD MAYOR'S RELIEF FUND.

The fund is controlled by a committee of citizens. The honorary treasurer is Mr. George Macdonald, and the honorary secretary is Mr. J. B. Macdonald.

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FOR INFLENZA.

Wolfe's Schick's, with lemon, at bedtime, AND COLDS. —Advt.

THE NORTHERN COAL TRADE.

CONFERENCE AT NEWCASTLE.

CONVENED BY THE MINERS.

SOME PROPRIETORS STAND OUT.

A NEW AGREEMENT SUBMITTED TO THE MINERS.

NEWCASTLE, Sunday. A conference convened by invitation of the Colliery Employers' Federation, northern district, with the colliery proprietors, was held yesterday morning at the Chamber of Commerce. The following colliery proprietors or representatives were present:—Messrs. R. P. Simpson, J. Chapman, B. Wilkins, F. J. Chubb, Andrew Suddon, W. W. Johnson, F. J. Diddams, M. Arnold, H. S. Forsyth, and G. Young. An apology for absence was sent by Dr. Robertson.

There were 28 representatives of the Colliery Employers' Federation present, including the district officers, Mr. E. P. Simpson (Pacific Coal Company) and Mr. J. Chapman (Newcastle Coal Company).

The colliery proprietors were represented by the A. Company, Messrs. J. and A. Brown, the Newcastle Coal Company, and the Wallend Coal Company. The proprietors were present, including the district officers, Mr. E. P. Simpson (Pacific Coal Company) and Mr. J. Chapman (Newcastle Coal Company).

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WINTER PLUMS.
Although we never hold a Sale
OUR BARGAINS
KNOW NO BOUND.
We are plunging ahead in spite of
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BETTER ONES couldn't be. "**AS GOOD ONES**" are hard to find, you do find as good they won't be as ours.

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then come in and you won't be disap-
at what we will show you for the
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ZIBELINE COSTUMES in all the
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Folds to Knee, Russian Coat finished
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Glimmering Evening Blouse.

Collars, finished Black Rte. Into
Cord Ornaments, Latent Sleeves,
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SKIRTS.

The remarkable combination of Val
Prices should be a strong incite to d
to our Skirt Department.

USEFUL HOUSE SKIRTS in Pl
figured Materials, a Great Variety,
On Hand.

SMART WALKING SKIRTS, in Black and Navy Serge, from 11s 9d.
A STYLISH SKIRT, in Black and Navy Serge, Three Seas of Cord, 17s 6d.
Same Style in Lustre, 12s 9d.
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BLACK CASHMERE SKIRTS, best

Strapped Natan, finished in front with
pretty design, 11a 4d.
Another CASHMERE SKIRT, the
Style, Plain Panel in Front, finished
with Hets of Tucks, pretty shaped F
also Tucked, 19a 6d.
BLACK CASHMERE SKIRT, with
Folds to Knee, 21a.
This style also in Black Seilian.
SEALING, PLATING, GILDING, ETC.

PITT-STREET HORDER.
PRICES HINT AT THE SAVING
MADE AT THEIR ESTABLISH
IN SPIE OF SELLING OFF
ANOTHER UP-TO-DATE SKIRT,
 somely Trimmed Silk Medallions,
 and

COLOURED SKIRTS.
A VERY SMART SKIRT, in Grey
 Tweed Pleats, finished handwork
 Ornaments, 22s 6d.
A THOROUGHLY UP-TO-DATE SKIRT
 Grey Zibeline, Pleated Skirt, 1
 Medallions, 20s 6d.
ANOTHER UP-TO-DATE SKIRT.

and Black Zibeline, shaped Collar,
specially Tucked, Seams Strapped Sash
35c 6c

We also have, in addition to above,
**GREAT VARIETY OF OTHER STYLES
COSTUMES and SKIRTS**, all ready for
mediate wear.

**THE BIGGEST ASSORTMENT
IN THESE STATES.**

WINTER UNDERSKIRTS

"WE'LL LET THESE PRICES TALK."
LADIES' WINTER UNDERSKIRTS,
in Green, Black, Navy, and Ruby
full size and latest cut, with 11
trimmed Broad,
to 11d.
In Navy and Black Mureen, extra wide
deep flounce, edged with trim,
to 11d.
OUR SPECIAL UNDERSKIRT, in all
date colorings, superior quality M
the New York Stock Exchange

VERY SMART UNDERSKIRTS, in
Modeste, in all rich countings.
Prices ranging from 25¢ to 35¢
[Exceptional Value.]
FOR MATRONS' WEAR—
Handsome Black Satin Underskirts, n
Designs, unlined, 25¢ to 35¢, 35¢ to 60¢,
Lined throughout, 25¢ to 35¢, 35¢ to 60¢,
37½¢ to 85¢, &c.
A Splendid Assortment of LADIES' W

MORNING WAFFLES, in Flannels
6s 11d, 7s 11d, 9s 11d.

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SYDNEY'S LEADERS OF FASHION
203, 205, 207, 209, 211
PITT-STREET.
SYDNEY.

(If you cannot come out Shopping
order by letter.)

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

SERVANTS WANTED.

WANTED, elderly Person, h'work, no
last sit., also wages regl. N. F. I. G.

WANTED, compt. GIRL to work shirt ma

WANTED, strong young GIRE, train Co.
dress. 11 o'clock, Museum Island, 20

WANTED, good general SERVANT. At
Butler's Hotel, Drmitt and Sumner

WANTED, COOK, young and capable. In
2nd W. W. C. A. T. 354, 1st Q. V.

WANTED, respectable young GIRE, and
fam, Crosswell, Doughty St., Kensington

WANTED, WOMAN to clean out new bar
Foster and Co., new building, Belmore

WANTED, good GENERAL, young. First
Dwelling-st., Worthington.

WANTED, good Genl., good look, per-
Registry Office, 332 Broadway, few min.

WANTED, thorough General SERVICE
after 10, 33 Biddle-st., Hyde Park

WANTED, a young GENERAL, in the
table, also a useful BOY. Apply at
41 Albion-st.

WANTED, July 4, a smart, refined World KEEPER, all day, must be paid 10¢ only, one dand, nurse kept, good house, wages to rel. & cld. to Cleverful, 2-11, 11-12, 12-13.

WANTED, respectable, neat, willing Help, small private family, meal food preferred, good home, clothes or wages.

H. H. H. 1-12

WANTED, Lady HELP, young, 10¢ a gridroom. Apply between 11 and 12.

WANTED, a strong and respectable man, who understands the country, one who understands the country, one who understands the country.

G. BRAND, 2 Glenmore road, P. O. Box 100, 100, 100.

WANTED, all claims of competent persons, all claims of competent persons, all claims of competent persons.

FEDERAL PROTESTANT INSTITUTE, 100, 100, 100.

WANTED, all claims of competent persons, all claims of competent persons, all claims of competent persons.

V.W.C.A.

WANTED, for a station. Wallow, with
woman as HOUSEKEEPER, all duties
and cook; Boy milk, attend horses, and
Apply, enclosing references.
A. J. M. SIMPSON,
Birdsall
YOUNG MAN to assist, cook and
Kedney Sandwich Supply, 266 George

SYDNEY MORNING H
ONE PENNY PER COPY.
In Advance: Post paid, 8s per quarter
ADVERTISEMENTS.
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horation of insertion. The number of in
appear must be stated, otherwise they will
countermanded. No verbal communica

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[illegible]

statements of MARRIAGES cannot be inserted as correct by the officiating Minister of this rule is rendered necessary in consequence malicious notices having been sent for purposes of annoying respectable persons.

N MEMORIAL advertisements and THANKS, 3s each insertion.

The Pillar Box at Redfern Railway Station for advertisements and communications is closing at 8.30, 9.30, and 10.30.

TELEPHONES

DNEY.—Printed and Published by John
sons at the office of "The Sydney Morning H
and Hunter streets, Monday, June 29, 1904.